

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 43-86 are pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 82-86 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. By this Amendment, claims 82 and 86 were editorially revised so that an “emulation device” in claim 82 and a “housing” in claim 86 have a sufficient antecedent basis. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 82-86 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that claims 43-81 are allowable. As noted above, claims 82-85 are in full conformance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and thus Applicant submits that claims 82-85 are also allowable.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claim 86 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lau et al (U.S. ‘423, hereinafter “Lau”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Applicant respectfully submits that Lau fails to disclose each element of the claimed invention. For example, Lau fails to disclose “a linking member coupled to a first spindle rotating member and a second

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spindle rotating member; and at least one sensor, coupled to said processor, for monitoring the motion of at least one of said linking member and said capstan.”

Lau discloses a cassette device having two spindles 128 and a rotation detection mechanism 152 that provides output signals to a cassette player interface logic 154 which indicate the rotational direction and speed of the spindle. However, Lau fails to disclose a linking member coupled to the spindles which may be monitored for motion by a sensor.

Applicant therefore submits that claim 86 is not anticipated by Lau and respectfully requests that the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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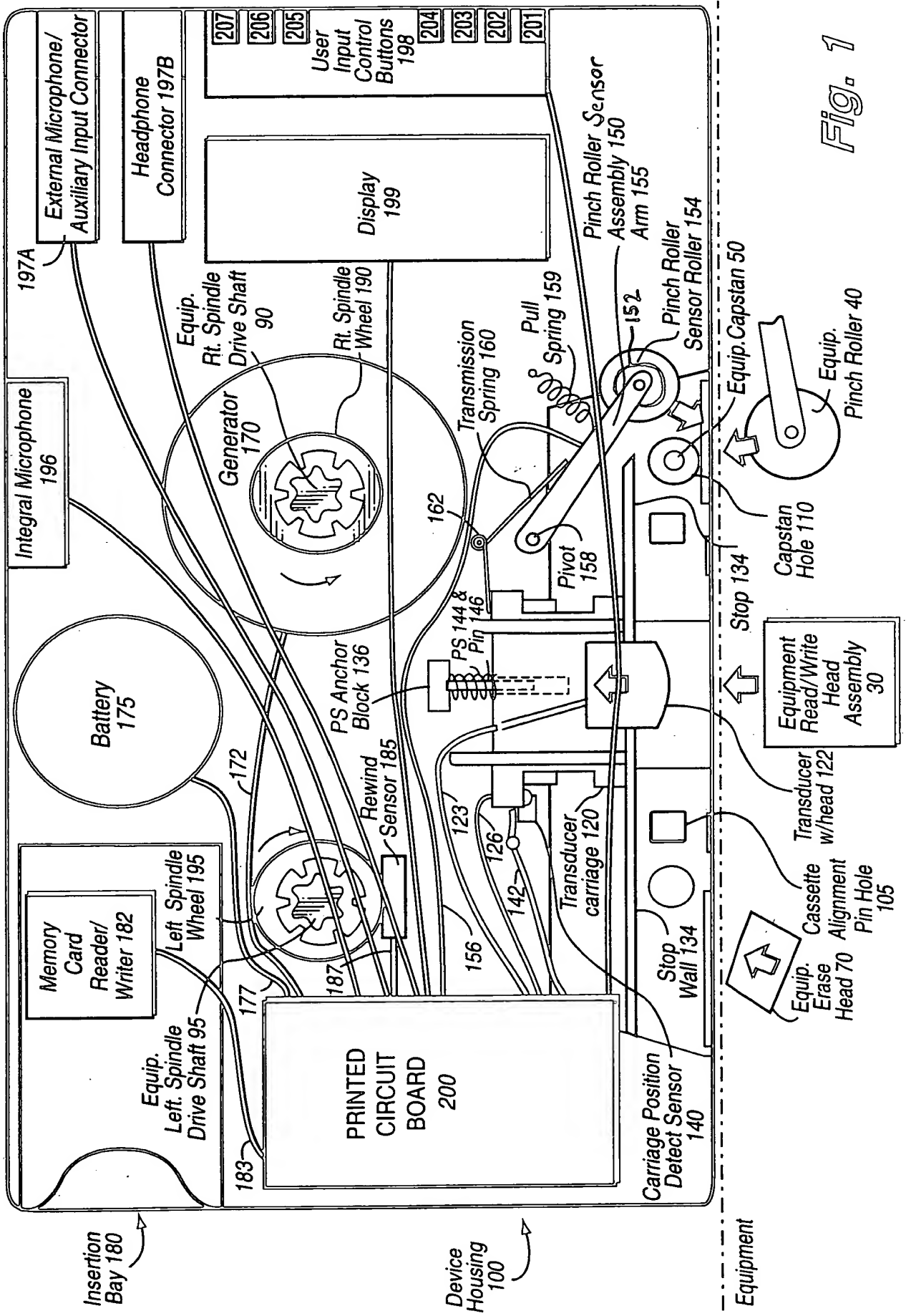


Fig. 1